

Methodists Slam Flag

The South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church recently (by a very narrow and questionable margin) voted in favor of a resolution calling for the removal of the Battle Flag (the Christian Cross of St. Andrew) from the Confederate Soldiers Monument on the South Carolina Statehouse grounds. They must have taken this action without the knowledge of the full history of the South Carolina Methodist Church and the history of the Army of the Confederate States of America. This oversight can be rectified with a better knowledge of the past workings of God.

Perhaps they, the United Methodists, did not realize that the greatest revival in the history of warfare took place in the Confederate Army from 1863-1864. Confederate Chaplains, Army Missionaries (sent by the Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, and Episcopal Churches), and various Colporteurs of Southern Tract Associations reported over 160,000 professions of faith among the troops in gray. This revival started in the Army of Northern Virginia and quickly spread to the entire Confederate Army.

The Methodists need to look at one of their own publications. The great need of scriptures for the army brought an outpouring of aid from all over the South. One such was the tract THE SOLDIER'S GUIDE published by the Soldiers' Tract Association, M.E. Church, South. Look at some of the



Now this would be much more appropriate.

text of this tract:

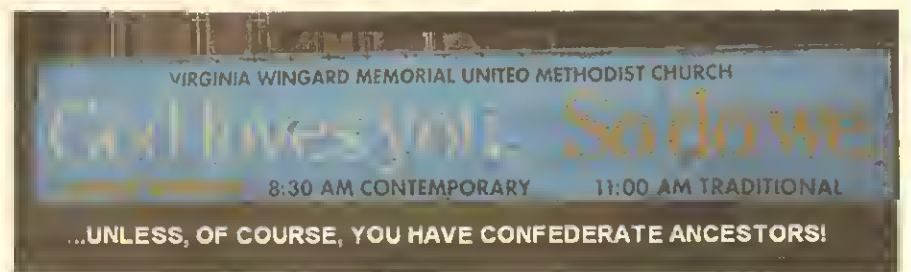
"My Dear Son: It may have seemed strange to you that a professed Christian father so freely gave you, a Christian son, to enlist in the volunteer service. My reason was that I regarded this as a purely defensive war. The Southern Confederacy proposed to adjust the pending difficulties by peaceful and equitable negotiations, to prevent a resort to the sword. These overtures having been proudly spurned, and our beloved South having been threatened with invasion and subjugation, it seemed to me that nothing was left to us but stern resistance or abject submission to unconstitutional power. A brave and generous people could not, for a moment, hesitate between such alternatives. A war in defense of our homes and firesides, of our wives and children, of all that make life worth possessing, is the result. While I most deeply deplored the necessity for the sacrifice, I could but rejoice that I had a son to offer to the service of the country; and if I had a dozen, I would most freely give them all. As you are now cheerfully enduring the hardships of the Camp, I know you will listen to a father's suggestions touching the duties of your new mode of life.

1. Take special care of your health.
2. The rules of war require prompt and unquestioning obedience.
3. Try to maintain your Christian profession among your comrades.
4. As you will come into habitual contact with men of every grade, make special associates only of those whose influence on your character is felt to be good.

5. Should it be your lot to enter an engagement with the enemy, lift up your heart in secret ejaculations to the ever-present and good Being, that he will protect you from sudden death, or, if you fall, that He will receive your departing spirit, cleansed in the blood of Jesus, into His kingdom.
6. Providence has placed you in the midst of thoughtless and unpardoned men. What a beautiful thing it would be if you could win some of them to the Savior.

Could the same Methodist Church that published the words from this Southern father to his son now call for the flag of this soldier to be banned? Once again, the church needs to relearn its own history.

Perhaps they have not read the letters of Rev. L.R. Redding, Methodist, of the Georgia Conference, M.E. Church, South, as he wrote of the Great Confederate Revival. "In the evening, at the close of dress-parade, the drums would beat the Church Call. It was a glorious sight....to see those toil-worn veterans gathering in companies and marching to the house of the Lord...while the gallant Colonel McCullough, of the 16th South Carolina, himself a godly man, leads his men to the place of worship, then the 24th South Carolina falls into line, led by their chaplain and their brave Colonel Capers, son of the deceased Bishop Capers, of the Methodist Church. The benches and the pulpit have to be removed (the chapel was overflowing).....a thousand hearts are stilled to hear the word of the Lord. At the close of the sermon, hundreds bow in



penitence and prayer, many are converted, tattoo beats---the men disperse to their cabins and tents, not to sleep, but to pray and sing with their sorrowing comrades; and far into the night the Camps are vocal with the songs of Zion and the rejoicing of new-born souls."

These men would be among the first converts in this revival. This revival brought nearly 50,000 new converts into the roles of the Methodist Church. These Christian soldiers would go on to fill thousands of churches when they returned home.

Maybe they have not heard about one of noblest servants of Jesus Christ- Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson. In a letter to his wife Anna, he wrote: "Monday morning. This is a beautiful day and a lovely morning---beautiful emblem of the morning of eternity in heaven. I greatly enjoy it after our cold, chilly weather, which has made me feel doubtful of my capacity; humanly speaking, to endure the Campaign, should we remain long in tents. But God, our God, does and will do, all things well; and if it is in His pleasure that I should remain in the field, He will give me the ability to endure all its fatigues. I hope my little sunshiny face is as bright as this lovely day. Yesterday I heard a good sermon from the chaplain of the Second Regiment, and at night I went over to see Colonel

See **Methodists**, on page 9

United Methodist Official Opposed to Old Glory?

WASHINGTON, May 17 /Christian Newswire/ — An official with the Washington, D.C. lobby office of the 8 million member United Methodist Church called this week for the removal of U.S. flags from his denomination's churches. The Rev. Clayton Childers of the Capitol Hill-based United Methodist Board of Church and Society declared: "The presence of a national flag in worship can imply endorsement of national policies which often run counter to the teachings of Jesus Christ and our Christian faith." He ominously noted: "One need only recall the way the Swastika Flag was displayed prominently in German churches during the Nazi era."

IRD Director of UMAction Mark Tooley responded, "The United Methodist Church, under its liberal leadership, is losing over 50,000 members a year, and this church lobby official is oddly worried about getting American flags out of our churches."

"Unlike the blood-soaked Swastika flags that the Nazis forced upon German churches, American churches voluntarily display their country's flag as a reminder of the country in which God has providentially placed them. Typically, American flags stand against the side walls of American churches, quietly and unobtrusively. They are hardly the idolatrous object of imperialistic worship against which the United Methodist lobby official warned."



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STANDING GUARD

Randy Burbage
SC Division Commander

I grew up in rural Charleston County out on Highway 61 on part of a farm my grandfather purchased during World War II. There were only about 35 families living in our small community known as Pierpont. We all knew each other, looked out for each other, cared about each other, and helped each other out.



Sharpsburg 2002, leading the 10th SC Infantry

There were three Confederate earthworks fortifications in the area that we played on regularly. We hunted squirrels, rabbits and doves in the nearby woods and fields. My parents never worried about where I was or what I was doing. Our neighbors had permission to punish me if I needed it and would call my parents if they saw me doing something I should not be doing.

There were mostly boys growing up in our neighborhood, but there were a few girls as well. We stayed outside all day long unless the weather was bad. A neighbor kept a three acre field mowed and well kept for us to play on and use as an athletic field. The community football, half rubber and baseball games there were very intense. Sometimes there were disagreements and fights, but we never had to worry about getting shot.

My grandmother lived around the corner from us on the other side of the farm. She was a devoted Christian and charter member of St. Andrews Methodist Church. I attended Sunday school and church there with her nearly every Sunday. I remember singing from the old Cokesbury Hymnals.

My Mother was a stay at home mom who grew up in downtown Charleston. She had a thick Low Country accent. I don't think she was scared of anything and what she said went. Her only rules for me were quite simple: stay out of trouble, be home before my father and take a bath every night. She had supper ready when Dad got home from work every night.

My Dad worked at an auto parts store in downtown Charleston. He was a big Citadel fan and attended all the home games. I always enjoyed hearing the Citadel band play Dixie after each touchdown. There were many Confederate Battle Flags in the grandstands. What a great atmosphere! My Dad was disappointed when I told him I wanted to go off to the University of South Carolina to attend college.

Now jump ahead in time with me. It has been almost 40 years since I graduated from high school. All three of the Confederate fortifications we played on as children are gone, victims of continued development. We don't know our neighbors. Both parents in most households now have to work to make ends meet. The children hardly ever go outside and our young people get shot on a regular basis after minor disagreements. The Methodist Church has come out against the Confederate Flag, USC football coach Steve Spurrier says "that damn flag has to go", and the Citadel band no longer plays Dixie. Times sure have changed since the good old days!

If I had acted years ago to make sure those Confederate earthworks were on the National Registry, maybe they would still be with us today. There is still much we can do to preserve and protect our Confederate heritage. We need to mark and record the location of every single Confederate veteran's grave. We need to teach our children the true history of the South and show them they have nothing to be ashamed of. We need to learn as much as we can about our history so we can meet attacks on our heritage with the facts. We have a lot to be proud of as descendants of Confederate veterans. We must stand guard for our heritage. If we don't do it, no one else will.

Standing Guard For Our Ancestors,

Randy B. Burbage

Randy B. Burbage
SC Division Commander

Compatriots Celebrate "The Year of Lee" in Mobile

Howard Chalmers, Commander, Moultrie Camp #27

The 112th SCV National Reunion and Convention held July 25-28 in Mobile, Alabama was both productive and enjoyable for those in attendance. Delegates and guests were able to reconnect with old acquaintances, make new friends, and concentrate on the business of the SCV. As expected, the South Carolina Division continued its leadership in the SCV and contributed greatly to the ongoing work of the organization, having an exceptional group of Camps represented by delegates to the convention.

Once again, the S.C. Division was recognized as one of the outstanding Divisions in the Confederation. Your Division journal, the *Palmetto Partisan*, received the coveted DeWitt Smith Jobe Award as the best Division newsletter. A number of Camps received national award recognition, and individual members were recognized for their outstanding service to the SCV and in the defense of our heritage. Lt. Commander Gene Hogan defended his title as champion of the oratory contest, prompting one participant to quip that if he "three-peats", he'll have to take over as emcee in 2009!

In the opening business session on Thursday morning, Commander-in-Chief Sullivan's stirring report appropriately set the tone for the business sessions of the convention, placing focus on the future of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. CinC Sullivan alerted all that the coming sesquicentennial celebration of the War Between the States

rendition of Dixie much to the surprise and enjoyment of several hundred other diners.

Later Thursday evening the ANV held its Army meeting in a conference room which conveniently featured a large balcony overlooking the swanky gourmet restaurant of the Battle House Hotel. At the conclusion of the meeting ANV Commander Michael Givens ordered the French doors to the balcony opened widely. Then the full house of dinner patrons below were treated to a spirited rendition of Dixie much to the frantic dismay of the matre'd who was in a literal panic to halt this "uninvited intrusion" upon his diners. However, at Dixie's conclusion the near capacity crowd below rose in enthusiastic approval of the unexpected serenade. Dixie rocked Mobile that night!

The Time & Place Committee presented its report during the Friday morning business session; not one, but two groups from South Carolina presented proposals for the 2010 National Reunion. Both of the teams, one from Anderson and a contingent from Charleston & Mt. Pleasant gave professional, informative, and entertaining presentations. After spirited debate, the delegates voted to award the 2010 National Reunion to Anderson. As another demonstration of why South Carolina is an example to the rest of the SCV, the two competing groups met near the side of the convention hall, shook hands, and agreed that the ultimate goal was to provide the SCV with the best possible Reunion. A fellow delegate from South Carolina overheard two men from another Division comment, "That would never happen in our state. Our guys wouldn't speak to each other for years."

Delegates completed the planned business in two sessions rather than the three originally scheduled, allowing the Saturday morning session to be cancelled. As a result, most of the delegates attended the Internment Service for an Unknown Confederate Sailor recovered from the wreck of the *CSS Alabama* off the coast of France. The sailor was buried in the Confederate Rest section of Magnolia Cemetery in Mobile. In attendance was compatriot Captain Oliver Semmes, the great-great-grandson of Admiral Raphael Semmes, commanding officer of the *Alabama*. The service was a memorable part of the weekend, reminding all in attendance that we are responsible for the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name and the guardianship of his history.

Saturday evening saw a number of splendid events: the Banquet, the Debutant Presentation and Grand Ball. The Banquet, held in the Moonlight Ballroom, catered to a huge crowd of over 600 with the formal entrance and presentation of our national officers and their ladies. Commander of our northern counterpart, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, brought greeting prompting some good natured kidding from CinC Sullivan. Past recipients of the Robert E. Lee Award were presented, and several new members of this elite and accomplished group were added with great fanfare and ovation. Commander-in-Chief Chris Sullivan was awarded the SCV's highest honor, the Jefferson Davis Chalice.

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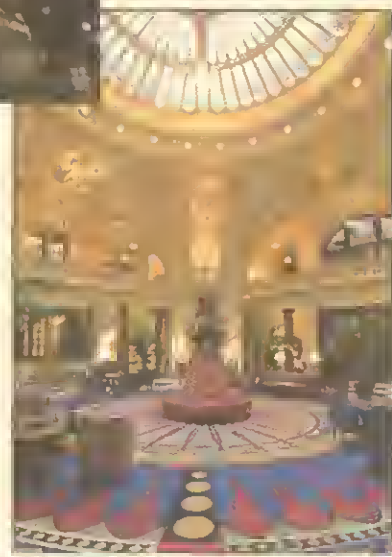
Complete listing of Awards see page 7



will be the "best and worst of times" for our organization. He emphasized that we will have better opportunities to present the "true history of the South" but warned that we will also be attacked more fervently than ever before. Commander Sullivan challenged all to be vigilant in the defense of our heritage, thoughtful in our arguments, and visionary in our planning.

Of urgent consideration, the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2007 was presented at three levels, allowing the convention to adopt the budget before resolving the question of a dues increase. Later in the session, the \$8 dues increase proposed for 2007 was amended to be a \$10 increase, but the increase was postponed until FY 2008. As a result, the SCV will be operating on the tightest of the three approved budgets. As part of his report, Executive Director Ben Sewell presented membership numbers and stressed that we need to be focused on retention of our members at the Camp, Division, and National levels. Four proposed amendments to the SCV Constitution were debated and voted on.

Early Thursday evening nearly all S.C. Delegates gathered en masse at a very popular restaurant on Mobile Bay, Ed's Seafood Shack, for some fine Southern seafood, rebel rousing fun and some good old fashion down home fellowship. Following the casual dinner gathering, Commander Burbage led the large group in a loud and boisterous



Palmetto PARTISAN

The Official Journal of the South Carolina Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans

Jeff O'Cain - Editor
Cindy Socia - Graphic Designer/Coordinator

The *Palmetto Partisan* is published periodically by the South Carolina Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans as a service to our members. Nonmembers may subscribe to the newsletter for \$20.00 per annum. It will be sent free of charge to libraries and to public and private schools upon request. Send all subscriptions to:

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Where We Stand

Mark Simpson
SC Division Adjutant

President Ronald Reagan said, "Let us be sure that those who come after will say of us in our time, that in our time we did everything that could be done." While his comment was not a reference to the Sons of Confederate Veterans, I believe the sentiment certainly applies to us. It causes me to ask a question of myself everyday.... "Am I doing all I can for the organization that has given me so much? What else can I do?" President John Kennedy made a similar reference in his speech, "And so, my fellow Americans, ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country."

As the "Chief Financial Officer" of the SC Division many of you may assume that I am motivated only by money and numbers. Those areas may be the central focus and attention of my particular position but at the end of the day I ask the same question that you do.... "Am I fulfilling *The Charge* and my duties to the best of my ability?" That is a question that each member, and he alone, can answer. Not everyone has money to give, and perhaps coming up with enough cash to pay annual dues is difficult. But one thing we all have an equal share in is TIME. How we utilize it and how we redeem it establishes who we really are.

The SCV, like most volunteer organizations, groups, even churches, see about 10% of their members doing 90% of the work, the larger portion sitting on the side lines basically inactive. If your involvement in the SCV is only the attendance at a monthly meeting, then I would ask you to consider volunteering for other duties in the Camp. I'm confident you won't be turned down. And if you haven't attended a meeting in awhile, make plans to do so soon. Bring a friend. It will give your spirits a good lift, and I'll bet you just might sing Dixie a time or two on the ride home.

During this current membership renewal period, I received a check from one of our retired compatriots in the amount of \$1.00 earmarked for Heritage Defense. Attached to it was a handwritten note saying, "I'm retired and don't have much to give...it's the

best I can do." I can't tell you how moved I was to receive that check; it reminded me of the widows "mite" in the Bible. When the Hardwick's win their legal fight, and in part with the financial support of the SCV, I will be reminded that the sacrifice of \$1.00 gave us just enough ammunition to win the day.

You might think your small efforts mean little or nothing in the large scheme of things, but one small rock in the hands of a young teen age boy many years ago, fell one very large giant of a problem. Every dollar, every minute and every hour donated by you amasses a wealth of earnings plus interest, insuring that our sons and grandsons have a stronger SCV for the future. I believe they will say, "We did everything we could for Southern heritage."

With our annual membership renewal period soon to close on November 1st, please insure that your dues and any additional giving are sent into your Camp Adjutant today. Every last man counts and every single gift, big or small, makes us better able to stay the course in our continuing fight to protect our precious Confederate heritage. For the sake of your Confederate ancestor, his honor and his good name, please maintain your continuing membership. I know he would have it no other way.

For the future of our Southland,
Mark A Simpson
Division Adjutant



MUSTER

Gene Hogan
SC Division Lt. Commander

Another year in the SCV has come and gone. When you received your annual invoice for dues, you probably noticed, on the reverse of the form, a survey. Your answers were sent to your Camp, hopefully, providing the leadership with data to make your Camp more effective in fulfilling *The Charge*.

Make no mistake - The Camp IS The SCV. We need good leadership at all levels of this organization, but it is the Camp that creates an impact in your community. Every initiative that succeeds in the SCV does so because of the hard work of the members of the local Camp.

Our greatest successes are due to hard working Camps. Likewise, our disappointments are often due to inactivity in the Camps. The encouraging news is that struggling, inactive Camps can change their fate with just a few strategic corrections.

Each Camp is different. What works in Beaufort might not work in York. What works in Edgefield might not work in Conway. However, there are some foundational underpinnings, without which, a Camp severely limits the likelihood that it will be successful. I refer to these by an acronym, appropriately, CAMP:

Convenient location
Always have a program
Membership involved
Presence in the community

First of all, make sure that your meeting place is well known in the community, is easily accessible and can hold a group comfortably. Restaurants are frequently utilized, but if your Camp has the ability to prepare meals, then church social halls, firehouses, VFW or American Legion halls are also workable solutions. Remember, just because you know where it is doesn't mean that perspective members do. After all, ability to recruit should go into the meeting place selection process.

Second, if you've made the effort to find a good location, then give members and visitors a reason to stay. We have some excellent resources just among our membership - gentlemen that have an area of expertise that can offer you informative and entertaining programs. Recently, your Brigade Commander was charged with creating a speakers list and distributing it to his Camps. Utilize that list.

Next, having established a core of members in attendance, give them jobs to do in the Camp. Determine what needs to be done and put them to work. The work that a member contributes to his Camp not only benefits the Camp, but it reinforces the importance of the SCV to him - it makes him a more enthusiastic member.

Finally, we need to be active in our communities. We need to stand out, not hide out. In addition to making your monthly meetings, memorial services and other special events known to the public, your Camp should be involved in adopt-a-highway, Christmas parades, festivals and charitable events. We are all salesmen for the SCV and we need to do a better job of "marketing."

You've heard this numerous times before, but it can't be ignored. We are a little over three years away from the War's sesquicentennial observance. That will be a four-year blessing or beating, depending on how well we are prepared. We must be the largest, strongest, most influential, most highly motivated SCV that we've ever been. Is your Camp ready for the challenge?

Yours in service,
Gene Hogan
Lt. Commander



So with that said, you'll be hearing from your Editor every now and then on topics of serious interest or that just simply make him mad. He won't be cute or perhaps even diplomatic about what he sees or says, but he will endeavor to make us all more aware of the things we must do better to defend our heritage.

If you'd like your particular opinion to be heard, then step up to the plate! Send me an email and, just like "letters to the editor" for all newspapers, make your point in a few words, be articulate, accurate and well informed. Otherwise, just like the newspapers, your Editor will either seriously edit your piece or simply can't 'cause it's too long or too stupid or both. My email address is jocain@sc.vr.com. And DO NOT add me to your mass mailing! I get enough stuff from my great friend 1st Brigade Commander Joe Payne, so don't send me any "junk mail" even if you may think it's cute! Joe kindly helps me take care of what otherwise might be a terrible void in my life. Right, Joe?

Says who?...Says me!
Jeff O'Cain
Editor

THE FIELD PULPIT

Ed Westbury
SC Division Chaplain

As many of you know, a new award was launched at the 2007 SC Division Convention. This award was the Richard Kirkland Award to honor the Compatriot who best demonstrates the ideals of Sgt. Kirkland as he ministered to his fallen enemies. The award went to Col. H. Frank Shealy (US Army-Ret.) of the Secession Camp #4.

It read: "After watching television and seeing the needs of the people of a country whose radical leaders are at war with the United States, Compatriot Shealy was inspired to help raise food and water rations for the people of Iraq. He worked with the SC Baptist Convention to collect food and had them shipped over to Iraq. Compatriot Shealy then flew to Egypt where he then caught a bus ride to Baghdad to help with the dispensing of the food to those in need. He told of the smiles and warm welcomes from the men, women, and children that are not part of the war against the US. The families caught in the middle of the war were elated to receive the benefits of the services Compatriot Shealy provided. Compatriot Shealy performed all of this work covering the expenses out of his own pocket".

Col. Shealy's dedicated work goes back to Katrina, when after the storm devastated the area, he took it upon himself to go to New Orleans and perform cleanup and distribution of care and food packages. Col. Shealy has made two missionary trips to Iraq and



just recently returned from Afghanistan where he helped families in desperate need."

Sgt. Kirkland and Col. Shealy were both very humble when asked why they went out to help their "enemies." Their reply was almost identical, "Because God would have me minister to those in need." These men were led by the Holy Spirit to reach out with the love of Christ.

Jesus in Matthew 5:43-44 says, "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven." Then in Matthew 25:40, He tells us that whatever we do for the least, we are doing for Him.

Every man in the South Carolina Division is being called by God to answer this call to reach out with the love of the one who saves us by His grace. The same Jesus that enabled Sgt. Kirkland to cross the wall at Fredericksburg with water for the wounded Yankees and led Col. Shealy to go multiple times with aid to the Iraq and Afghanistan wants to use you. The question is, "Will you let Him use you to show the love of Christ?"

Ed Westbury
Division Chaplain

Says Who?...Says Me!

Jeff O'Cain
Editor



When I accepted the post as Editor in March '06, it was my expressed intention to remain well in the background. Other than having a major hand in creating the editorials, I initially felt that our editor should be the primary driving force to assemble and polish up the columns and articles for print and, simply put, "just gitter done". Too many volunteer organizations' periodicals that I have seen over the years had way too much of their

"Editor" and not enough news, columns and articles from their leaders and members. As you can see I have had a change of heart.

Know that yours truly did, in fact, flatly decline Commander Burbage's initial request to "put out a newsletter". I did, however, offer to build a system that would publish a consistent high quality Division periodical that would serve the Division's critical need for improved and efficient communications. I insisted it should not only go to the 3,300+ members but also to several thousand specially selected statewide non-members. We'd "build a system" so that regardless of whom in the future was elected Division Commander or whomever served as Editor, the Palmetto Partisan would continue to function.

♪ Ta Da ♪, we're almost there! But not without a lot of well intended folks chiming in on what they thought I should do or not do. Anyone who knows me will quickly affirm that I deplore mediocrity, trusting that the last 5 issues of our journal are an attest to that particular personal characteristic. Now, the good men who were so quick to offer their suggestions for the Palmetto Partisan are very similar to those who approached me when I took command of the Wade Hampton Camp in '04. There were no shortage

of individuals who'd say, "Jeff, if I were Camp Commander, I'd do this or do that.", never once offering to be the energy or driving force to "gitter done"...whatever the heck it was.

I learned many a valuable lesson in the US Army years ago. One big one was this: As a young 2nd Lt. tank platoon leader I attended my first Battalion level Command & Staff meeting where another young 2nd Lt., thinking he'd make a good eager-beaver impression, offered some suggestions about the food in the mess tent. BAM! In the blink of an eye the Battalion Commander immediately made that other Lt. the Battalion Mess Officer. So the results of this lesson was that when anyone would approach me as Camp Commander with an idea or suggestion, I'd say, "Then you're now the head of the committee" to do whatever he suggested. "Oh no, I didn't mean ME", he'd say. Usually it was the last time that particular person made anymore shallow, unfulfilled suggestions.

The men who step forward to take on a serious responsible duty are to be commended because there's so much to do for us to be effective in protecting our heritage, and a lot of it sure as heck ain't glamorous. At all levels of leadership in the SCV dedicated men step up and do the best they can do with what they have to work with. The last thing any of these men want is someone getting in their face and telling them what they ought to do, as though that leader's platter isn't already full. This is not to be confused with honest constructive criticism.

So, if you have an idea that you feel should be developed or a plan of action that you feel should be implemented, then speak up! But don't you dare utter a sound if YOU aren't willing to be the energy and driving force to "gitter done"...period. Either step up with your plan or idea, along with a commitment to make it happen, or just sit down and shut up. The men who work hardest are the ones who are heard above all others. You know that's the way it is in every other aspect of life: family, church, government, military, business, et al.

Profile In Leadership

SC Senate, District 20

John Courson

Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Camp #273

Columbia

As a seasoned veteran of the South Carolina State Senate, Compatriot John Courson has served his Richland and Lexington County constituents for over 22 years. His long, faithful service and effective leadership have earned him much deserved seniority. He presently chairs the Senate Education Committee.



With a life-long personal affection for all things Confederate, John's senate office is a reflection of this passion. The walls and tables in his office are literally jammed with Confederate memorabilia, pictures, books, flags and the like. A copy of *Broken Fortunes*, the complete index of all known Confederate soldiers from South Carolina who died during the war, is prominently displayed in his outer office for visitors to scan. It is a well worn volume attesting to its drawing power to many who visit his office. He even has a sizable display of miniature Confederate soldiers depicting a battle scene long ago.

John's unabashed passion for South Carolina's Confederate heritage earned him a position on the Hunley Commission from its inception. A longstanding member of the Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Camp, John makes a point to attend several Camp meetings each year never failing to delight everyone with his uncanny accounts of all the major battlefields he has visited in his lifetime. He is also a fervent fan of Major League Baseball and has visited nearly all of MLB's big time baseball fields around the country.

John's business time is spent with one of Columbia's largest insurance companies, Keenan & Suggs, where he serves as Senior Vice President of the firm. He is married to the former Elizabeth Exum. He and Lisa share three wonderful offspring, James Poinsett, Elizabeth Boykin and Harris Russell. They have long resided in the Shandon area of Columbia.

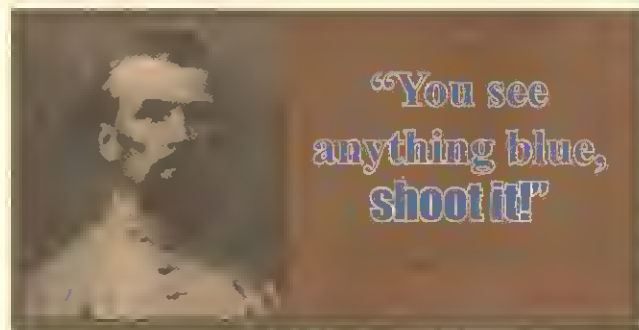
The Courson's are members of Trinity Episcopal Church where many of our Confederate icons are buried: Generals Wade Hampton III, States Right Gist and Ellison Capters to name a few. John is a '68 graduate of USC and a former Marine Corp reservist.

Convention, cont. from page 2

Following an exceptional dinner, special National awards, and brief speeches, delegates and guests retired to the opulent antebellum Crystal Ballroom of the Battle House Hotel for the Debutant Presentation. In traditional Southern elegance four beautiful young ladies including Callie Simpson, daughter of Division Adjutant Mark Simpson, were presented to jubilant delight of the packed house.

The 5th Alabama Regimental Band, 45 pieces strong, played in near philharmonic fashion to the delight of all. The sounds of such heritage favorites as Dixie, Bonny Blue Flag, and numerous Confederate classics stirred the crowd time and again to loud and boisterous cheers and song. The Virginia Reel was performed several times to old favorites that filled the dance floor to capacity. A truly enjoyable night of fun and fellowship provided for an exceptional closure to the well conducted, functional, and enjoyable 2007 Reunion.

Well done men of the Adm. Raphael Semmes Camp #11 and the entire Alabama Division.



If there had been no 2nd Amendment in 1861, the South could not have raised an army to defend itself against the invading Northern forces.

JOIN THE

NRA

Black Confederates

H.K. Takes On NASCAR!

NASCAR'S futile attempt to gain support from the Black community in an attempt to bolster its coffers by declaring war on the Confederate Flag should very well fall on deaf ears here in the South. Let us examine the cost for an admission ticket which is somewhere in the \$90 per ticket range: if NASCAR thinks that the average Black can afford or will attempt to afford this pricey admission, then Francee better put his thinking cap back on. Maybe, and I stress *maybe*, he might find one or two Blacks that will brave the terror of driving 1-2 hundred miles per hour round and round and round a race track for hours on end; again something that most Black folks historically don't find attractive at all, and for sure, they don't relish sitting in front of a television screen watching NASCAR. Now maybe if NASCAR can get Stevie Wonder to fire up one of those engines and head down the track, then we might have something going on here.

Now let's examine the vendors who sell at the NASCAR events: Black folks won't take it too well paying \$30 for a rack of ribs, and 8 hucks for a hamburger. Nor will you find the scalawag Dale Earnhardt's # 8 jersey or replica of his car on the shelves of many, if any, black homes.

NASCAR knew the honorable reputations of

the many White men and their families who put the Southern Cross on their ears and posted it on the tracks. Instead of the treachery that they now invoke by playing the politically correct game, they should have repaid their debt to the Southland by joining with the Sons (SCV) and Daughters (UDC) of the South, and organizations like the Confederate Rose, in teaching the many young Blacks and their new public the true history of the Southland and of the honor and dignity earned by the millions of Blacks who loyally served under the Christian Cross of St. Andrew.

Instead they took to the low road of political correctness and climbed into the bed with the black mailing poverty pimps, carpetbaggers, historical revisionist, and those who continue to try to eradicate our Christian principles and love for our Southern symbols.

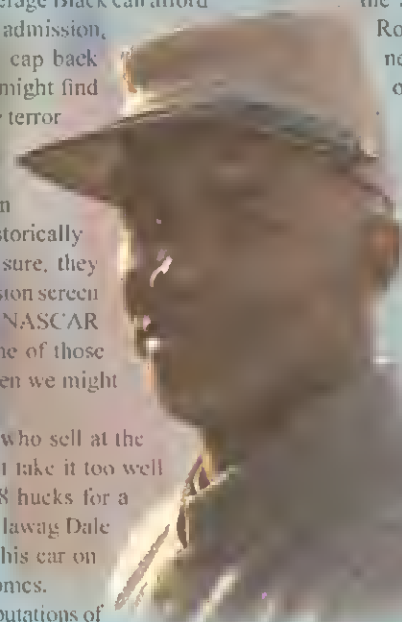
Proud to be a son of the Southland,

H.K. Edgerton

Chairman

Board of Advisors

Southern Legal Resource Center



Partisan Wins Prestigious National Award



The *Palmetto Partisan*, the official journal of the South Carolina Division, was awarded the SCV's highest honor for publications at the recent 2007 National Reunion in Mobile. The *Dewitt Smith Jobe Award* was presented at the Annual Awards Luncheon held on Thursday, July 26th. Editor Jeff O'Cain proudly accepted the award on behalf of Commander Burbage and the entire South Carolina Division. Several hundred copies of the June issue were provided to many of the Reunion attendees from all across the Confederation with much praise and encouragement to continue our efforts the order of the day.

The *Palmetto Partisan* has been but one of the direct results of the \$5 Division dues increase enacted in Beaufort in 2006. Graphic Designer, Cindy Socia, has insured that the Division's journal is second to none in appearance, graphics and print quality. Cindy was, in fact, the recipient of the Division's Ladies Appreciation Award in Mt. Pleasant.

Kevin Dietrich's impressive lead editorials have been on target and very effective in expressing the Division's official position on many public matters of concern to the SCV. The NCAA, NASCAR, NAACP, Nazis and *The State* newspaper have all been effectively responded to by way of Kevin's great editorial work. It should be noted that not only does every issue of the *Partisan* go out to all SC SCV members, but it is received by over 2,000 non-members in our state who represent all levels of government, business leaders, law enforcement and other organizations.

The *Dewitt Smith Jobe Award* is named in honor of Confederate martyr Pvt. Dec Jobe



who, as a member of Coleman Scouts (also Sam Davis' unit), was captured by an element of the 115th Ohio Regt and tortured beyond all humanity. Pvt. Jobe, carrying special secret documents, was disarmed, bound and his eyes gouged out. His tongue was cut from his throat, and he was dragged to his death never divulging the secrets of the documents he had swallowed only moments before his capture. A "Google" or search on the internet of

his name would be a worthy endeavor for all to learn the entire sad and horrific story of this incredibly brave and courageous Confederate soldier.

From Division Commander Burbage, "The South Carolina Divi-

sion is certainly humbled and honored to receive an award which is given in the name of Pvt. DeWitt Smith Jobe. The *Palmetto Partisan* has been one of the most effective tools we have implemented as a part of the Division Communication Initiative established in Beaufort in 2006. I encourage everyone to read and learn of Pvt. Jobe, a truly great Confederate hero who held the welfare of the Confederacy above his own life."

Editor's note: A great number of individuals, far too many to list here, have unselfishly made significant contributions to the substance and quality of the editorials, articles, reports and the like in every single issue. I personally thank them here for their great effort, time and thoughtfulness in helping to make our journal the finest in the SCV.

You just gotta love the Southland!

Florence/Darlington County

A group of our good ole boys from the Pec Dee Rifles and W.E. James Camps got together and went deer hunting. They paired off in twos for the day. Commanders Ken Howle and Trip Wilson took off together. That night, Ken returned alone, staggering under the weight of an eight-point buck. "Where's Commander Wilson?" the others asked.

"Trip had a stroke of some kind. He's a couple of miles back up the trail," Ken replied.

"You left Trip lying out there and carried the deer back?!" they inquired.

"A tough call, fellows," nodded Ken. "But I figured no one's gonna steal Trip!"

Pickens County

Clemson sophomore Hannah Burbage was overheard saying, "When the end of the world comes, I hope to be in South Carolina." When asked why, she replied, "I'd rather be in South Carolina because everything happens in South Carolina 20 years later than in the rest of the civilized world."

Orangeburg County

Berley Dantzler, Commander of the Eutaw Regiment Camp in Santee came running into the Camp meeting and said to COS Irvin Shuler, "Irvin, another SCV man just stole your pickup truck from the parking lot!" Irvin replied, "Did you see who it was?"

Berley answered, "I couldn't tell, but he's got a SCV license plate and I got the license number! It's darn near the same as yours, Irvin!"

Beaufort County

"You can say what you want about the Palmetto State," said ANV Commander Michael Givens, "but nobody, and I mean absolutely **NOBODY**, ever retires in South Carolina and then moves to Michigan or Illinois or Maine or Massachusetts or New York City! And the damn Yankees from those places see it another way. Just spend a weekend in Beaufort or on Hilton Head Island, and you'll see what I mean."

"Fish Wrap"

Walking into a small local Mt. Pleasant fish market, past Moultrie Camp Commander Jeff Antley said to the fisherman proprietor, "Nice selection of fish you have here, sir. Let me have a pound each of your dolphin, king mackerel, red snapper and some of that excellent looking yellow fin tuna." The man gestured he'd get it together. Jeff then said quickly, "And, oh by the way, would ya mind packaging it all individually in that *State* newspaper wrap you have behind the counter? And be absolutely sure to use only the editorial pages."

While selecting Jeff's order the fisherman inquires, "So why is it you specifically want *The State* newspaper when the *Post & Courier* or *Greenville News* will do the same?"

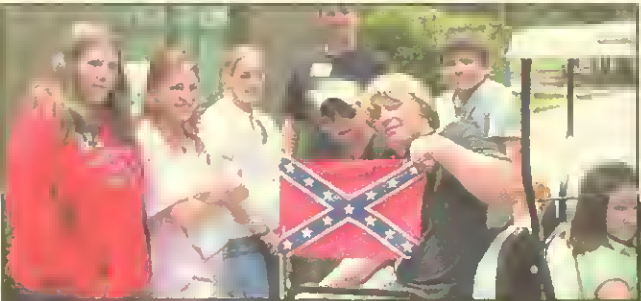
Antley smiled broadly and responded, "You see, sir, when I'm cooking the fish at home I like to keep up with Brad Warthen's and John Monk's editorials and op-ed's."

"Why not just go buy a *State* paper?" asked the man. Jeff laughed, "There's sure no way in heck I'd ever spend my own good hard earned money on *The State* newspaper. So just for kicks now and then I occasionally read up on Warthen's and Monk's stupid and baseless editorial spew on the only true and appropriate medium, *Fish Wrap*."

Duh? Doesn't everybody?

South Carolina Hosts Sam Davis Youth Camp

The 5th Annual Sam Davis Youth Camp was held July 30th to August 5th at Camp Kinard, the SC Lutheran Retreat Center, just west of Columbia near Batesburg-Leesville.



The Sam Davis Youth Camp, the inspiration of former SCV Commander-in-Chief Ron Wilson, was specifically designed to help enlighten our youth about "the true history of the South". It was determined that the Camp would combine fun and recreation with thoughtful instruction in Southern history, the theology of the South during the War, lessons on our Southern heroes and great men of faith. The first Camp was available only to young men between 12-17 years of age and was held in Mentone, Alabama. At the first Camp about 30 young men attended. Since that time several sites have been used throughout the Confederation to host annual Sam Davis Camps.

Under the leadership and direction of Ron Wilson and Camp Director Jack Marlar, this year's Camp set a record attendance with 72 young men and ladies. With the addition of counselors, special guests, staff and guest speakers, total attendance reached well over 100. This was the second year that young ladies were invited, and it has proven to be a welcomed and very successful addition to the Camp format.

Each day began with reveille at 7:00 a.m. Cabin-mates had to have their respective cabins ready for inspection before assembling at the flagpole for morning colors. Two Campers were selected each day to serve as color guard raising and lowering the Confederate flag with a cannon salute, after which all enjoyed a hearty Southern-style breakfast.

Following breakfast each day, the entire Camp met to hear various exceptional speakers on various aspects of life during the period of the Confederacy. There were three morning instructional sessions before the noon meal and two sessions afterwards. Then there was special time for swimming, recreation and relaxation. After supper two more sessions were conducted followed by a return to the dining hall for snack time and practice for the final Saturday night festivities.

Throughout the week many former and current National and Division officers paid visits including Commander-in-Chief Chris Sullivan, SC Division Commander Randy Burbage, Florida Division Commander Doug Dawson, Chaplain-in-Chief Dr. Cecil Fayard.



A real highlight of this year's Camp was the Oratory Contest. Twenty two boys and girls entered to speak on the subject of "Why Southern Heritage is important in 2007". The presentations were exceptional leaving the judges with a very difficult decision on the winner. Some very nice prizes were given to the top orators.

On Saturday, the final day of Camp, many parents, grandparents, family members and guests began arriving to participate in

the evening meal and other festivities. A special presentation on the H. L. Hunley was given by Miss Hannah Burbage, a Camp counselor and current president of Clemson University's newly established "Students With A Southern Heritage", the forerunner for a new SCV Camp, OCR Chapter and UDC Chapter on the Clemson Campus.

Later in the evening Commander Burbage delivered a stirring speech on Southern Heritage challenging everyone to do all in their power to keep the spirit of our heritage alive.

During the evening special awards were presented by Camp Director Jack Marlar. Five young men were inducted into the SCV, and awards were presented for outstanding Camper as well as the winner of the Oratory Contest. Each Camper was presented a certificate for having completed the 5th annual Sam Davis Youth Camp. Camp Counselors were recognized and presented certificates of appreciation.

At the conclusion of the awards ceremony, the room was cleared in order to have the annual Sam Davis Camp Ball. Many of the Campers dressed in period clothing and all enjoyed the dancing and singing that followed. Simply put, a truly great time was had by all, Campers and counselors alike.

The 5th Annual Sam Davis Camp was hailed as a tremendous success and everyone is eagerly looking forward to next year.

Herb Antley
Sam Davis Camp Counselor
Moultrie Camp # 27
Mt. Pleasant



Every year the Soldiers Mounument and Battle Flag stand guard over South Carolina's official Christmas tree.

"If we were wrong in our contest, then the Declaration of Independence of 1776 was a grave mistake and the revolution to which it led was a crime. If Washington was a patriot; Lee cannot have been a rebel."

— Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton, CSA

U-Haul Displays The Hunley

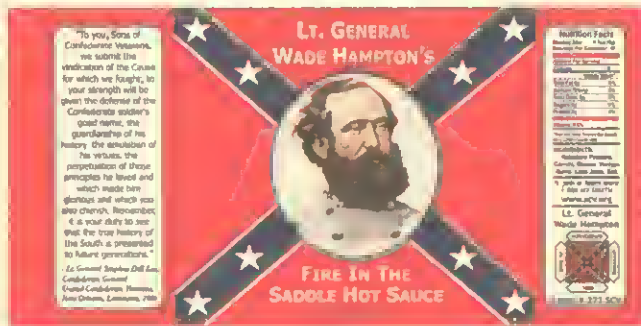
#123 Venture Across America
SOUTH CAROLINA
SUBMARINE MYSTERIES AT CHARLESTON

U-HAUL chooses different items unique to each state to be displayed on the side of their trucks as part of their "Venture Across America" Campaign. For their South Carolina fleet of vehicles, U-HAUL chose to showcase the Hunley. Approximately 1200 trucks will have the Hunley on the side as they travel across the nation's roadways. This Hunley image was officially unveiled recently on U-HAUL's 17-foot moving vehicles. Many thanks to U-HAUL and FRIENDS OF THE HUNLEY for helping make this opportunity possible to educate people nation-wide about the unbelievable story and history of the world's first successful combat submarine.

DID YOU KNOW?
Using revolutionary technology ahead of its time, the H.L. Hunley inspired innovative submarine designs for decades. What caused her to mysteriously sink in 1864?
LEARN MORE ABOUT THE 'HUNLEY' PROJECT AT...
uhaul.com

Camp's Hot Sauce A Fiery Success!

Newly appointed Division Quartermaster Robert Spigner wasted little time getting busy with his duties to help Camps establish worthwhile and successful fundraising projects. So as a first pilot project Robert encouraged his home Camp in Columbia to test a unique idea for a new Camp-level fundraiser: *private label hot sauce*. Armed with all the information from a private label sauce marketer in Charlotte, Robert convinced his Camp Executive Committee to underwrite an initial order for 6 cases (144 bottles) of what would become later known as the "Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton's Fire In The Saddle Hot Sauce"



The private label company offers many different and unique sauces for businesses and organizations to create for retail sale or for fundraising projects. It was decided to stay clear of BBQ sauces for obvious reasons and to go with a habanera-flavored hot sauce. A label design was decided upon and in only a couple weeks the first order arrived to much fanfare.

The new high quality and spicy flavored food additive is a big hit! The serious hot sauce connoisseur will certainly enjoy this sauce. And its colorful label design is perfect for all your PC friends or as simply a great Confederate heritage gift at Christmas.

The sauce sells for a mere \$5 a 5 oz. bottle and has completely sold out its first shipment with a second order on its way. The realization that the sauce would make for a very unique "stocking stuffer" for Christmas has spurred sales. The sauce is available not only from the Wade Hampton Camp Quartermaster, and will soon be available in the gift shop of the Confederate Relic Room as well as the Southern Patriot Shop on Hwy 321 at Fish Hatchery Road in Cayce.

All Camps are encouraged to follow and develop their own private label products. Every area of the Palmetto State has its own special flavors and the private label sauce opportunity is a perfect Camp fundraiser. For more information and help getting started kindly contact Division Quartermaster Robert Spigner via email, APPX3@aol.com.

November 9, 2007 - December 4, 2009

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Compatriots and Friends of the South: Showing disrespect to the Stars and Stripes while respecting the Battle Flag is a divisive subject. In this clash, misunderstandings are usually worsened instead of healed. It is the hope – and prayer – of this Son of many Confederate Veterans, that these few thoughts may refine a renewed focus and dedication to our Cause.

Fellow Compatriots, we fight a cultural and spiritual war, identified by the vitriol spewed from those who hate our Battle Flag. President Davis said: *The principle for which we contend is bound to reassert itself, though it may be at another time and in another form.* Until that time comes, the Battle Flag embodies our Charge to perpetuate the principles and ideals for which our Confederate soldiers fought.

The Stars and Stripes was our flag in the War for American Independence, including 4 Southern states – 5 if you count Maryland. The First National “Stars and Bars” is the spiritual descendant of Thomas Jefferson, and the Battle Flag is rooted in the precepts of the original Stars and Stripes. Therefore, is it not disrespectful to our Cause and to our Battle Flag to show disrespect to the Stars and Stripes? Compatriots, I would hold it so, for the Stars and Stripes and the Stars and Bars were both birthed in our Founding Fathers’ original intentions.

Further, our fight is not with the Stars and Stripes, nor is it with those who love and respect it. Do not be deceived! Our fight is with those who oppress our Battle Flag, our Southern culture and people, and sully the honour of our Confederate ancestors. Focus your energies to defend our heritage, and do not rail against the Stars and Stripes. Leave unholy attributes to others, and keep the moral high ground. President Davis iterated in April 1861: *We feel that our cause is just and holy; ...all we ask is to be let alone....*¹ Disrespect to the Stars and Stripes is dishonour to all that is just and holy.

In this 200th year of General Robert E. Lee's birth, I would most humbly refer to his comments. General Lee argued that reconciliation would further Southerners' interests better than antagonism to federal authority. He publicly urged obedience to the authorities and respect for law and order.² He privately chastised Jefferson Davis for angry responses to perceived Northern insults, writing in 1865 that *It should be the object of all to avoid controversy, to allay passion, give full scope to reason and to every kindly feeling...*³ Lt. Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest, in his farewell address echoed Lee's sentiments: *You have been good soldiers, you can be good citizens. Obey the*

Our veterans fought with honour under the Stars and Stripes, perpetuating the greatest and noblest of both the Stars and Stripes and our Battle Flag. They never fought for hegemony. Though many veterans are disgusted at political misuse of our military, yet still they fought in honour for freedom, under the Stars and Stripes. Consider the effects of their sacrifice:

I knelt in full combat gear with others whom I did not know, in their church in a foreign country, to give thanks in a language not my native tongue that their political and religious freedom had been restored – by US Soldiers serving under the Stars and Stripes.

I stood with my father as we were honoured together by the SCV, and by the United Daughters of the Confederacy, grateful to us for our wartime service – under the Stars and Stripes.

I stood at my father's casket, just before it was closed, to gently cover him with a Battle Flag. Like him, it was tired, worn and faded, yet still it radiated the fires of indefatigable independence and great Godliness. They sleep together in honour now, the

A monument in Frankfort, KY reads, in part:

Our Confederate Dead 1861 – 1865
They sleep:
Who but a coward would
Reville an honoured Soldier's dust.

Although the Stars and Stripes symbolized a repressive government in 1861, that flag has long since absorbed the values of our Battle Flag, and now stands for much we hold dear. Disrespect to the Stars and Stripes disrespects our veterans, Freedom, our own Cause, reviles the dust of honoured Soldiers, and denigrates noble sacrifices – made under both the Battle Flag and the Stars and Stripes.

God places great importance on banners and flags, as Past SCV Chaplain-in-Chief John Weaver has explained". One of God's own names is "the LORD our Banner"; King David himself set up banners in the name of God. The Apostle Paul in Romans Chapter 13 commands us to obey and respect government and that must of necessity exclude disrespect to the Stars and Stripes. Compatriots, we cannot show disrespect to the Stars and Stripes while claiming honour with men like Lee and Jackson under the Battle Flag, who put obedience to their God above all else. Do not forget, Paul taught respect to government authority even while the Roman believers were under persecution for their faith. Yet in spite of their sufferings, they still obeyed God by respecting the Emperor and his banners.⁷

Dear Compatriots and Friends of the South, under the Stars and Stripes we have not suffered unto death for our God, nor been required to show obeisance. We have a mandate from a heritage older than the Confederacy to show honour, and no valid spiritual reason for disrespect.⁸

Compatriots, I appeal to your own honour and oath. We swore to uphold the Constitution of the United States. Disrespect to the Stars and Stripes cannot be divorced from that oath. If you cannot respect the Stars and Stripes, then honour your ancestor's honour and courage by showing

your own – and resign from the SCV. Perhaps your views on the Stars and Strips have changed since you joined our great Confederation. It is not dishonourable for a man's opinions and values to change over time. It is, however, dishonourable to not own up to it.

My loyalty is to my country, the home of my birth. I will give my life in her defense.

My devotion belongs to my Beloved Southland with her Confederate heritage and her most splendid Battle Flag. I will live to keep her honour as white and pure as snow.

However, I bow the knee to no one but to my God, and to my King, King Jesus.

Compatriots, Friends of the South, defend our glorious Battle Flag, while building bridges with those who only understand the Stars and Stripes. Remain steadfast in honour with nobleness of character, word and action. Give no reason to bring dishonour upon our God, our Cause, or our Battle Flag. Thus, we will preserve the opportunity to reassert the principle for which the Confederacy contended, at the time and in the form of God's choosing.

"Do your duty in all things. You cannot do more, you should never wish to do less."

~ General Robert E. Lee

I remain
Your most obedient servant,
In His Service, for the Cause,

John M. Sutton
Sergeant Barry Benson Camp #16722
North Augusta
Life Member, SCV
Life Member, SC Division
Palmetto Pathfinder
Recipient:
UDC National Defense Medal
UDC Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal
SCV Military Service Medal, with 3 Battle Bars
SCV Legion of Merit Medal
SCV Commendation Medal

- 1 Transcribed by Trina S. Rossman and reverse-order proofed by T. Lloyd Benson from Jefferson Davis' Inaugural Address, "Message on Constitutional Ratification," Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies, Series IV, vol. I, pp. 256-268.
- 2 Fellman, Michael, *The Making of Robert E. Lee*, Random House, 2000, ISBN 0-679-45650-3, pp 258-263.
- 3 *Ibid*, pp 275-277
- 4 Henry, Robert Selph, As They Saw Forrest: Some Recollections and Comments of Contemporaries, from *The Mississippi Valley Historical Review*, Vol. 43, No. 1 (Jun., 1956), pp. 133-134 doi:10.2307/1895307. <http://links.jstor.org> Given at Headquarters, Forrest's Cavalry Corps, Gainesville, Alabama May 9, 1865
- 5 Romans 12: 19, KJV (cf Deuteronomy 32:25)
- 6 Weaver, Pastor John. The Truth About the Confederate Battle Flag. Available from TRUTH AND SOUTHERN HIST-ia, SC 29171
- 7 Foxe's Book of Martyrs. Foxe, John (1516-1587) Edited by William Byron Forbush. In the public domain.
- 8 This is not to disparage religious beliefs that forbid images, icons or salutes to such, provided that these beliefs are exercised in honesty and consistently to all flags, not just the Stars and Stripes.

Definition of a Yankee

Yan•kee (yan'kē) *n.* a Northern scoundrel with a penchant for greed, hypocrisy, a general lack of congeniality, and a Puritanical desire to order the lives of others. They are typically New Englanders or descendants of New Englanders, though there have been notable exceptions. The term “Yankee” is often interchangeable with “liberal”. Note that not all Northerners are Yankees, but all Yankees are Northerners.



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115TH REUNION COMING TO ANDERSON IN 2010

July 2010 will likely see the grandest and largest attended National Reunion & Convention ever held by the SCV in its 115-year history! With the determination of a pit bull terrier, past Commander-in-Chief Ron Wilson forged an impressive alliance of local business leaders and government officials to seek the right to host the SCV's 2010 Reunion in Anderson.

Clearly demonstrating the solid strength of the SC Division, not one, but two Camps in our Division made exceptional presentations to the delegates in Mobile in August. While both cities, Anderson and Charleston, were regarded as excellent venues for this "biggest of all conventions", the newly formed Manse Jolly Camp #6 assembled a team of Anderson City and County officials who traveled en mass to Mobile to personally make their pitch for the 2010 convention.

To demonstrate just how much the 2010 SCV gathering meant to them, they broke out all the "big guns" from an impressive array of Anderson City and County agencies: Anderson County Administrator Joey Preston, Convention & Visitors Bureau Director Glenn Brill, Civic Center Director Charles Wyatt, Civic Center Events Coordinator Dan Brawley, Public Information Officer Angela Stringer and of course past CinC Wilson who, if you weren't aware, is also County Councilman Wilson as well as the new Jolly Camp Commander.

The scales tilted decidedly towards the Anderson proposal because of the very solid show of support from all elements of business and government. From City of Anderson and Anderson County officials to numerous SC state legislators and 3rd District US Congressman and SCV Compatriot Gresham Barrett showing huge support for the 2010 Reunion, it was obvious the SCV was more than welcome to bring its annual gathering to their town in the Piedmont and foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

A commitment by the Anderson delegation to fly our revered Battle Flags all over town seemed to clinch the decision. An impressive list of planned activities, heritage tour sites, hotel costs and availability, and top name entertainment also helped win over the SCV delegates in Mobile. While Charleston will always be close to our hearts and seen as the undisputed bastion of our state's most



Confederate flags will fly at the Anderson Reunion!

highly recognized and valued Confederate heritage sites, Anderson gave absolutely no doubt that every facet of government and business wanted the SCV to come there.

The 2010 Reunion will not only be our 115th annual meeting, but will further serve to kick off the Sesquicentennial Celebration itself right here in Anderson, South Carolina. With Anderson only a few hours driving time for over a third of all SCV members, hotel accommodations will get scarce quick, so make your plans NOW to attend what will likely be the largest attended event in SCV history.

USC Professor Slams the Flag

On December 22, 2006, Jay Bender, a Reid Montgomery Professor of Journalism at USC and a 1st Amendment Attorney, wrote a seathing article in the Aiken Standard reporting that South Carolinians are "contrarians who the minute someone not in the pale majority suggested that it was rude, insensitive or racist to fly with official sanction a flag that had been waved in battle by armed forces dedicated to the perpetuation of slavery, that flag was coming down only when the halcyon was pried from the cold, dead fingers of those among us who continue to believe that South Carolina's finest moment came in 1861."

Mr. Bender went on to say that after the decision was made to move the flag to the Confederate monument, the "white 'Forget Never' crowd marched and howled and harrumphed in protest." He goes on to suggest that the NAACP take up the Confederate Battle Flag as a symbol of their liberation because "Had the deluded protagonists not marched off to war under that flag, slavery might have continued even longer..."

Perhaps Mr. Bender is not aware that the Confederate flag has and is being carried by African-Americans in our land who have learned that it is part of their heritage also. Lincoln had no interest in freeing any slaves other than those in the Southern states: as the aggressor in the battle, he was struggling to reassert his authority in a part of the country that no longer recognized his authority. Mr. Bender should also take note that slavery existed under the Stars and Stripes much longer than it did under the Stars and Bars.

Editor's note: First check the Aiken Standard archives and read fully Mr. Bender's 12-22-06 article. Then, if you would like to respond to Mr. Bender's comments, contact him at jbender@brblegal.com.

South Carolina National Awards

Compatriot	Camp	Camp #	City
Dixie Club Reuniting Award			
Mark Simpson	Brigadier General Barnard E. Bee	1575	Aiken
Graves Award			
Sharon			
Commander-in-Chief's Award			
Randy			
Gene			
Robert Scarborough			
Johnny Sessions			
Ken Thrasher			
Woodrow Weatherford			
Commendation Award			
Jim Craig	Moultrie	27	Mt. Pleasant
Michael Graham	Palmetto Sharpshooters	142	Aiken
Sylvester Mabie	Secession	4	Charleston
Reggie Miller	Lt. General Wade Hampton	273	Columbia
Don Pace	Secession	4	Charleston
Gene Patrick	Secession	4	Charleston
Robert Scarborough	Litchfield	132	Columbia
Johnny Sessions	Litchfield	132	Columbia
Ken Thrasher	Litchfield	132	Columbia
Woodrow Weatherford	Secession	4	Charleston
Meritorious Service Medal			
Julian Wade Cheney	General Ellison Capers	1212	Moncks Corner
E.M. Clark	15th Regiment S.C. Volunteers	51	Lexington
Rick Cooper	Brigadier General Barnard E. Bee	1575	Aiken
Robert Davis	Hampton Red Shirt Riders	1876	Columbia
Daniel Dukes	Moultrie	27	Mt. Pleasant
Mark Evans	16th Regiment S.C.	36	Greenville
Ron Hamilton	16th Regiment S.C.	36	Greenville
James Harley, Jr.	Lt. General Wade Hampton	273	Columbia
Sam Howell	Fort Sumter	1269	Charleston
Marion Hutson	Lt. General Wade Hampton	273	Columbia
Albert Jackson	Col. Henry Laurens Benbow	859	Manning
Lawrence G. Jameson	H.L. Hunley	143	Summerville
Webster S. Jones	16th Regiment S.C.	36	Greenville
Anderson S. Langdale	Secession	4	Charleston
Walt Lineberger	General Richard H. Anderson	47	Beaufort
Gene Moseley	Brigadier General Barnard E. Bee	1575	Aiken
Larry Oberst	2nd S.C. Regiment	71	Pickens
Jerry Pittman	Sgt. Berry Benson	1672	North Augusta

Compatriot	Camp	Camp #	City
Arthur	Capt. Andrew T. Hartlee	2010	Dillon
Grover Scott	Brigadier General Barnard E. Bee	1575	Aiken
B. S. D.	Moultrie	27	Mt. Pleasant
Rick Steadman	Moultrie	27	Mt. Pleasant
Dean	Palmetto	22	Columbia
Randy Stewart	General Ellison Capers	1212	Moncks Corner
R. S. S.	Sgt. Berry Benson	1672	North Augusta
J. W. S.	Josh. B. Kinslaw	82	Camden
E. S. S.	H. S. S.	143	Summerville
Distinguished Service Medal			
H. S. S.	Moultrie	27	Mt. Pleasant
G. S. S.	Brigadier General Barnard E. Bee	1575	Aiken
P. S. S.	P. S. S.	22	Columbia
S. S. S.	S. S. S.	4	Charleston
M. S. S.	M. S. S.	27	Mt. Pleasant
G. S. S.	G. S. S.	36	Greenville
H. S. S.	H. S. S.	143	Summerville
J. S. S.	J. S. S.	143	Summerville
R. S. S.	R. S. S.	143	Summerville
D. S. S.	D. S. S.	143	Summerville
L. S. S.	L. S. S.	143	Summerville
K. S. S.	K. S. S.	143	Summerville
J. S. S.	J. S. S.	143	Summerville
H. S. S.	H. S. S.	143	Summerville
G. S. S.	G. S. S.	143	Summerville
F. S. S.	F. S. S.	143	Summerville
E. S. S.	E. S. S.	143	Summerville
D. S. S.	D. S. S.	143	Summerville
C. S. S.	C. S. S.	143	Summerville
B. S. S.	B. S. S.	143	Summerville
A. S. S.	A. S. S.	143	Summerville
Jefferson Davis Chalice			
Christopher M. Sullivan	16th Regiment S.C.		
SCV Superior Achievement Awards			
Gene B. S.	Moultrie		
Woodrow W. Brown Jr.	H.L. Hunley		
Jimmy Cagle	Pvt. Thomas E. Caldwell		
John N. Couch	H.L. Hunley		
James Davis	Pvt. Thomas E. Caldwell		
Kevin Deitrich	Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton		
Joe Fore	Pvt. Thomas E. Caldwell		
William Kayle	Pvt. Thomas E. Caldwell		
Sam Limbaker	Moultrie	27	Mt. Pleasant
David Mitchell	H.L. Hunley	143	Summerville
Jim Sharpe	Moultrie	27	Mt. Pleasant
Mark Starnes	Pvt. Thomas E. Caldwell	31	York
William Stevens III	Pvt. Thomas E. Caldwell	31	York

Compatriot	Camp	Camp #	City
Buddy Thompson	Moultrie	27	Mt. Pleasant
Fred Tuk	Moultrie	27	Mt. Pleasant
Tony Tuk	Moultrie	27	Mt. Pleasant
Beau Wise	Moultrie	27	Mt. Pleasant
SCV Leadership Medal			
James R. Andrews	HL Hunley	143	Summerville
Charles A. Botts	HL Hunley	143	Summerville
Woodrow W. Brown III	HL Hunley	143	Summerville
Benjamin E. Bunting	HL Hunley	143	Summerville
Kirk Cater	Pvt. Thomas E. Caldwell	31	York
Mark J. Clark	HL Hunley	143	Summerville
Hubert Hass	HL Hunley	143	Summerville
Sydney Jones	HL Hunley	143	Summerville
Charles Matheson	HL Hunley	143	Summerville
Jack C. Meadows	HL Hunley	143	Summerville
Ken Nabors	Jefferson Davis	7	Easley
John Pendleton	Pvt. Thomas E. Caldwell	31	York
D. L. A. Pressley	HL Hunley	143	Summerville
Robert Roper	BG Samuel McGowan	40	Laurens
Dr. George R. Tabor Outstanding Camp Award			
H.L. Hunley	143	Summerville	2nd Place
Moultrie	27	Mt. Pleasant	3rd Place
Secession	4	Charleston	4th Place
Judah P. Benjamin Outstanding Scrapbook Award (Large Camps)			
Moncks Corner	1212	Moncks Corner	2nd Place
Summerville	143	Summerville	4th Place
Dr. Paul John Miller Outstanding Newsletter Award (Small Camps)			
Manning	859	Manning	2nd Place
Columbia	859	Columbia	3rd Place
S.A. Cunningham Outstanding Newsletter Award (Large Camps)			
Lexington		Lexington	1st Place
North Augusta		North Augusta	3rd Place
General Benjamin B. Ford Forrest Reuniting Award			
			1st Place



The Strongest SCV Division Gets Even STRONGER!

Growth is something that, generally, is considered to be desirable. That doesn't mean that it is always easy to accommodate. A church that has experienced growth through their ministry might require a building program and a requisite stewardship emphasis. A business might need to relocate or amend the job descriptions of its employees. Even families need to

So, now, we enter into a new era with the SC Division better equipped to handle the challenges of fulfilling *The Charge*. For the most part, the Camps will notice no difference; only administrative issues such as representation and communication will be affected. Any cooperative efforts that a Camp has been participating in with another Camp can and should go on.

At this point in our history it is the perfect time to renew our dedication to our proud Confederate heritage.

Will you, a man of so close a kindred interest and spirit, remain

make allowances as new children are added.

Our Division has experienced growth and has also had to react appropriately. For us, it was a realignment of our Brigades. Past Cmdr. Givens first recognized this need, then Cmdr. Burbage. The question was "how?"

Eventually, it became evident that 10 brigades would give us the optimum framework. Many factors were recognized as important in the process – overall membership numbers, number of camps, driving distances, historical boundaries and existing alliances among camps.

After numerous e-mails, a conference call and a "mapping session" with current Brigade Commanders, the final product was ready. It was almost unanimously accepted at the Executive Council meeting on October 6. The new Brigades will go into effect at the coming convention. The Executive Council (EC) will, as a result of the realignment, increase to 17 voting members. And this is a very good thing as the EC will be better representative of our growing Division. The last time Brigades were divided into the current 6 Brigades there were only 42 Camps. We now have 69 Camps and more in the developing stages.

steadfast in your loyal association to the SCV and openly and with great pride in your heart, display the most honored symbol of our shared Southern heritage, the shield of the Sons of Confederate Veterans? Maintain your membership as a part of your life's work. You ancestor has no one else but you to stand on his behalf

It is for each of you to decide how you will aid in our never-ending struggle to fight those who would sully the good name and personal honor of our ancestors. Within your newly reconstituted Brigades find every way possible to expand our fine organization to which you have not so long ago stepped forward and said with conviction, "I want to join the Sons of Confederate Veterans."

Working ever hard to make our ancestors proud of what we do as the South Carolina Division,

**The Executive Council
South Carolina Division
Sons of Confederate Veterans**

Challenge Coin Program Started

Challenge coins are a military tradition dating back to WW I. They were initially designed simply to increase unit cohesion. They traditionally show the name and designation of a military unit. They were to be kept with you at all times to show your pride in your unit, even out of uniform. They are called "challenge coins" because of an interesting tradition. If you are out with friends, and someone pulls out their coin, they can challenge you. If you can't produce your own coin, the next round is on you!

In recent years, the use of challenge coins as a matter of pride has spread outside of the military to police departments, fire departments and more. They are also traded among different units and many people are collecting them. At the most recent National Reunion

obverse that is designed for your own Camp. The reverse will be the same for all SCV units, always reminding us of our Charge. The 16th Camp has paid for the original die to make the reverse, and will make it available for a small fee. The front will have to be designed for your own unit and a special die made. The Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Camp has taken steps to create its own challenge coins.

If you would like to have your own challenge coins in your Camp, have your Commander or adjutant contact Jim Forrester, Commander of the 16th, for details of the coin program. His email address is cdrl6sc@att.net.

You can also purchase one of the 16th coins if you are an SCV member by writing to Adjutant, 16th South Carolina SCV, 15 Boyce Ave., Greenville, SC 29601.



The Meaning of Challenge Coins

Today, custom challenge coins can still represent a tight bond between members of military units. However, their popularity has spread to other teams and clubs. Recognizing that challenge coins build esprit de corps, preserve team unity and encourage stronger ties; many other organizations have begun issuing custom challenge coins to bolster these traits.

in Mobile the Commander of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War presented SCV Commander-in-Chief Chris Sullivan with a beautiful challenge coin from the SUVCW.

As a matter of pride in their Camp, as well as a fund raiser for the Camp, the 16th Regiment South Carolina Volunteers Camp #36 in Greenville has produced its own distinctive challenge coin. The front, or "obverse", shows the palmetto tree, two shields with "16" and "SC" on them, and "1861" which is the date the original 16th South Carolina was formed. The full name of the Camp appears around the perimeter. The backside, or "reverse", shows the SCV emblem surrounded by the words from our charge: "That the true history of the South is presented to future generations".

Coins for SCV Camps are to have a distinctive

The coins are \$10.00 each, plus \$3.00 for postage (up to 5 coins). Be sure to state your Camp affiliation, because they are for sale only to SCV members.

The History of Challenge Coins

In World War I, a challenge coin had a historical significance. It was used for all those in the unit as a symbol of loyalty. Narrowly escaping the Germans, one pilot in this unit produced his challenge coin to French soldiers and had his life spared. That inspired the others in this pilot's unit to always carry their challenge coins.

Camps by Brigade

First Brigade

Palmetto Sharpshooters
Manse Jolly
John Thomas Ashley
Col. Joseph Norton
1st SC Regiment Orr's Rifles
Rebels in Grey
2nd Regiment SC Volunteers
Jefferson Davis

Second Brigade

16th Regiment SC Volunteers
Capt. Moses T. Fowler
Capt. P. D. Gilreath
Gen. Basil W. Duke
Brig. Gen. Samuel McGowan
Sgt. Adam Washington Ballenger
Gen. David F. Jamison

Third Brigade

Capt. Moses Wood
Pvt. Thomas E. Caldwell
Brig. Gen. Micah Jenkins
Walker-Gaston
Gen. States Rights Gist
Gen. John Bratton

Fourth Brigade

Joseph B. Kershaw
First in Secession
Maj. James Lide Coker
W. E. James
Marlboro
Witherspoon-Barnes
Gen. P. G. T. Beauregard
Lynches Ck. Guards

Fifth Brigade

Olde Abbeville
Brig. Gen. Barnard E. Bee
Barry Benson
Gen. Joe Wheeler
Brig. Gen. Martin W. Gary
Brig. Gen. Milledge Luke Bonham

Sixth Brigade

Palmetto
Hampton's Iron Scouts
Hampton Redshirt Rider
Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton
John M. Kinard
Gen. Paul Quattlebaum
15th Regiment SC Volunteers

Seventh Brigade

10th Regiment SC Volunteers
Pee Dee Rifles
Wee Nee Volunteers
Battery White
Col. Henry Laurens Benbow
Lilchfield
Marion
Capt. A. T. Harlee

Eighth Brigade

William H. Duncan / Hagood's Brigade
SC 17th Regiment
Col. Olin M. Dantzler
Morgan / Hart's
Eutaw Regiment
Col. Donald R. Barton
Rivers Bridge

Ninth Brigade

Colleton Rangers
3rd SC Cavalry Co. I of Edisto
Gen. Richard H. Anderson
Capt. John Mickler
Gordon-Capers
H. L. Hunley

Tenth Brigade

Secession
Moullrie
Star of the West
Fort Sumter
Pvt. John S. Bird / Palmetto Guard
Gen. Ellison Capers

1st Annual SC Division Leadership Conference January 4, 5 & 6

White Oak Conference Center — Winnsboro, SC
Details available from your Brigade Commanders

Make Plans Now For...

Secessionville Living History & Battle November 10-11, 2007



This annual reenactment is held at Boone Hall Plantation near beautiful, historic Charleston, SC. School Day is held on Friday. See living history demonstrations all weekend. Reenactment battle is on Saturday & Sunday. Go to www.csatrust.org for more information or call 843-530-6229. See you there!

This event is sponsored by the Confederate Heritage Trust, Inc. All proceeds go to the HL Hunley Preservation

Garland's regiment of Longstreet's Brigade, and heard an excellent sermon from the Rev. Mr. Granberry, of the Methodist (a South Carolina Methodist.)...

These Confederate veterans returned home to find the destruction wrought by the Union Army. They found families gone, homes destroyed, cemeteries full, an economy in ruins, and what did they do? They turned to the God that brought them through the war. These men remembered His promises of help and grew even closer to their Lord and Savior. Every church that has a Wednesday night service can thank these men for that tradition brought back from their Camps. (By the way, this tradition was started by Stonewall Jackson and his prayer partner Jim Lewis, a black man.) These men helped turned the South into the section of the nation known as "The Bible Belt."

The Methodist Church needs to remember that the flag they want removed is the flag of these Christian gentlemen. Yes, a very few in our nation have tried to turn it into a symbol of evil. It is the hate of these men and women that we must attack, not the flag. The Battle Flag flies over the Confederate Monument as a reminder to all of South Carolina that God used His Confederate servants and wants to use us for His will. When we honor the symbol of these men, we honor the God that they loved and served.

May we, the members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, be as faithful servants as the brave and honorable men who followed the Cross of Saint Andrew, the flag that symbolized a Godly and determined resistance to an unprovoked and unlawful invasion of their homelands by a ruthless and vengeful army from the Northern states.

The Last Confederate General to Surrender

June 23, 1865 - When the leaders of the Confederate Indians learned that the government in Richmond had fallen and the Eastern armies had been surrendered, they, too, began making their plans to seek peace with the Federal government. The chiefs convened the Grand Council June 15 and passed resolutions calling for Indian commanders to lay down their arms and for emissaries to approach Federal authorities for peace terms.

The largest force in Indian Territory was commanded by Confederate Brig. Gen. Stand Watie, who was also a chief of the Cherokee Nation. Dedicated to the Confederate cause and



Brig. Gen. Stand Watie

unwilling to admit defeat, he kept his troops in the field for nearly a month after Lt. Gen. E. Kirby Smith surrendered the Trans-Mississippi May 26. Finally accepting the futility of continued resistance, on June 23, Watie rode into Doaksville near Fort Towson in Indian Territory and surrendered his battalion of Creek, Seminole, Cherokee, and Osage Indians to Lt. Col. Asa C. Matthews, appointed a few weeks earlier to negotiate a peace with

the Indians.

Watie was the last Confederate general officer to surrender his command.

CAMP CLASSIFIEDS

See classified and ad rates on page 2

Secession Camp #4

Southern Heritage RV Rally

Do you want to spend an **Old Fashioned Southern Weekend** with friends and neighbors.

Have good family oriented fun. **Good Food, Good Music, Good Friends**

Come and spend the weekend with people who love the South as much as you do and know what Heritage is all about.

Featured are:

Youth Fishing Tournament
Sutler Row, Reenactment Area
Live Music, Speakers, Fellowship
Fried Chicken Dinner, Pancake Breakfast
Southern Bingo, Horse Shoes, Swimming, Bike Riding and many activities for Klds and Adults.

This event is open to SCV, UDC, CoC and non-members.

A date and location have not been chosen as of this printing. If you are interested please email

revere38233@mypacks.net

Fort Sumter Camp #1269

Col. J.J. Mahoney Memorial Confederate History Essay Contest For High School Students

Prizes include

\$1,000 Savings Bond

Publication of winning essay in the *Charleston Mercury*

Subscription for winner and winner's school to *Confederate Veteran Magazine*

Other awards for second and third place winners
Open to all 9th through 12th grade students

Submission by April 1, 2008

For additional information and contest guidelines contact

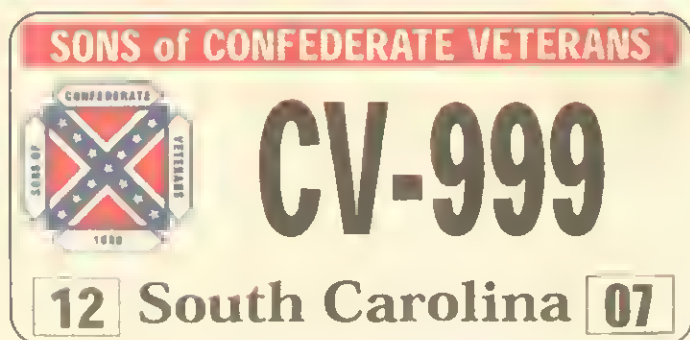
Price Oulla

Email cbdtand@bellsouth.net

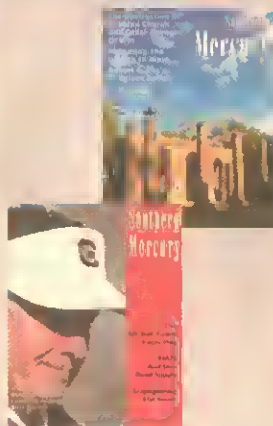
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Published by FPAC, the educational foundation of the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

VETERANS DAY PARADE



**Monday, November 12, 2007
10:00 a.m.**

The Confederate Soldier was NEVER not an American!

March with the Division in Columbia's grand 2007 annual Veterans Day Parade, the largest in the state! Over 100 units and 20,000+ spectators viewed last year's parade. Come be a part of this great American tradition!

WHERE: Columbia near Elmwood Ave. and Main St.

WHEN: Monday, Nov. 12th

TIME: 10:00 sharp!

WHO: All Division members especially ALL VETERANS!

DRESS: Coat & Tie please! Or uniform.

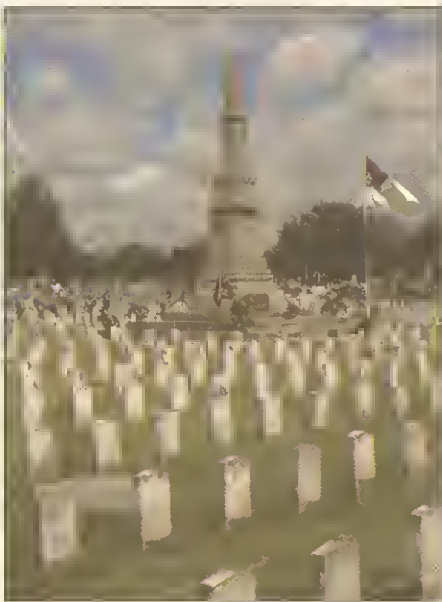
CONTACT: Dean Stevens, CMD Chairman,
803-760-2018,
cpldsofth@aol.com.

*It is our SACRED DUTY to honor the
Confederate veterans. It is our PATRIOTIC DUTY
to pay respect to all American veterans.*

Home is the Sailor, Home from the Sea

From the depths of the English Channel off the coast of Cherbourg, France another hero of the Confederacy has returned to be honored. An unknown Confederate Crew Member of the CSS *Alabama* died, going down with his ship, on June 19th, 1864, in the fatal struggle with the USS *Kearsarge*. The mighty guns of the *Alabama* were recovered during recent salvage operations of the Confederate cruiser off the coast of France by the US Navy. The cannons were sent to the Warren Lasch Conservation Center in Charleston. During the removal of the heavy concretement surrounding one of the guns the remains of a crewman were found. The US Navy turned the remains over to the SCV for interment.

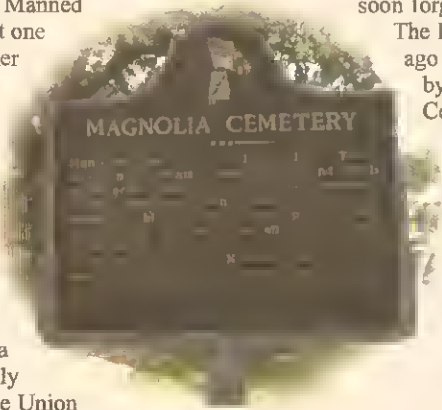
A special Memorial Service was conducted July 26th at the conclusion of the annual SCV Memorial Service, in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Mobile, Alabama. He was buried with full military honors Saturday July 28th at Confederate Rest in Magnolia Cemetery.



June 1864, the *Alabama* was caught there by the USS *Kearsarge*, one of the Union's most heavily armed battleships. With speed and forward mounted heavy cannons as her greatest assets, the *Alabama* was no match for a one-on-one contest of fire power with the *Kearsarge*. She had to make for open seas to be effective. While the *Kearsarge* would not dare enter a French port to engage the Confederate warship, the Union man-of-war simply laid in wait for the *Alabama* to make her move. Time was on the side of the Union battleship.

His ship, the CSS *Alabama*, was a screw sloop-of-war built for the Confederate Navy at Birkenhead, England in 1862 by John Laird Sons and Company. Under the command of Captain Raphael Semmes, the *Alabama* served as a commerce raider. She spent two years attacking, capturing and burning United States merchant and naval shipping. She caused disorder and devastation across the globe and claimed more than 65 Union ships valued at nearly \$6,000,000. Commissioned as a Confederate warship in the Azores, she sank the Union battleship USS *Hatteras* and boarded 447 ships of all flags. Over the course of her two-year career, she never once laid anchor in a Southern port. Manned by a crew of 120, she lost not one Confederate sailor during her entire 2-year global combat mission for the Cause until her final demise.

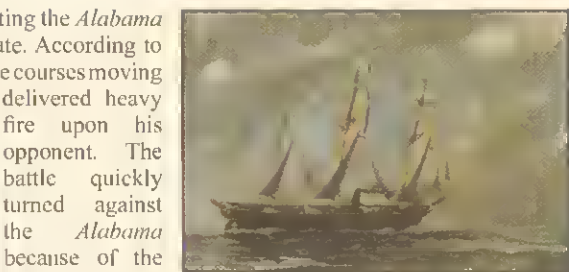
While making a port-of-call at Cherbourg, France for provisions in



So with no option but to come out fighting the *Alabama* got underway and steamed to meet her fate. According to survivors, the two ships steamed on opposite courses moving around in circles as each commander delivered heavy



Capt. Raphael Semmes aboard the CSS *Alabama*. To his right is first officer Lt. John McIntosh Kell. On the ship's wheel is Semmes' motto, in French: "God helps them who help themselves."



The CSS *Alabama* was the most successful ship ever to wage war on the United States in the entire history of the US Navy.

A little more than an hour after the first shot was fired, the *Alabama* was sinking from mortal blows and Captain Semmes was compelled to strike his colors to save his crew.

A British ship, the *Deerhound*, commanded by Capt. John Lancaster saved 42 Confederate sailors including Capt. Semmes. 12 sailors went down with the *Alabama*. The remaining 66 Confederate sailors were plucked from

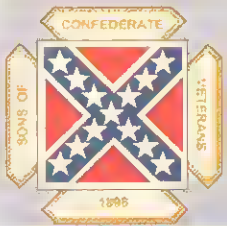
the waters by the *Kearsarge*, many being summarily executed by hanging as common pirates.

An incredibly special occasion took place in Mobile at this year's annual Reunion Awards Luncheon. The great-great grandsons of both Capt. Semmes and Capt. Lancaster met for the first time. Dr. John Lancaster of Cheltenham, England traveled from his home to Mobile to meet Oliver J. Semmes III. The men shook hands and warmly embraced in an emotional moment not to be

soon forgotten by everyone in attendance. Both men addressed the luncheon gathering at The Battle House giving their respective family's account of that fateful day 143 years ago off the coast of France. Dr. Lancaster was presented a special gift of appreciation by the SCV for his family's courageous act in saving Capt. Semmes and the other 41 Confederate sailors and giving safe quarter in England for a time until they all could return to the Confederacy to continue their fight for the Cause.

One hundred and twenty years after its loss, a French Navy mine hunter discovered the wreck under nearly 200 feet of water in 1984. A non-profit organization, the CSS *Alabama* Association, was founded to conduct scientific exploration of the shipwreck. Among the many fruits of this endeavor were the precious remains of the last 'Confederate Navy Man' to come home. "We are confident that this will be the last Confederate sailor to be buried," a spokesman said. There have been no other human skeletal remains found at the *Alabama*'s wreckage site.

L. Layne Waters, QMC (SS) USNR (Ret.)
Adjutant, Lt. General Wade Hampton Camp No. 273



The Charge

"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will submit the vindication of the cause for which we fought. To your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate Soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles he loved and which made him glorious and which you also cherish. Remember, it is your duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations."

The Charge is the official "Mission Statement of the Sons of Confederate Veterans"

Lt. Gen. Stephen Vail Lee
Commander General, United Confederate Veterans Reunion at New Orleans, 1906



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